## RESOLUTION NO. _____ (CM)

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE ACCEPTING THE $1.0 MILLION GRANT AWARD FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE LEE ROAD TRAIL PHASE 1 PROJECT FEDERAL NUMBER 5031(040) AND DIRECTING SUCH FUNDS BE APPROPRIATED TO THE SPECIAL GRANTS FUND (0260)**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Watsonville was awarded $1.0 Million Dollars in federal grant funds on June 28, 2022, from the Department of Transportation, Highway Infrastructure Program's "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" grant, to construct the Lee Road Trail Phase 1 project; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Watsonville has site control and has acquired all necessary easements to build the trail and sidewalk; and

**WHEREAS**, Caltrans is overseeing the Lee Road Trail Phase 1 Project Federal Project Number 5031(040) to ensure that the City of Watsonville is following all Federal guidelines and practices for this project and has issued the Authorization/Agreement Summary – (E-76) (federal authorization to fund the project) to obligate the $1.0 Million Dollars for this project.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1.      On March 12, 2021, the County adopted a mitigated negative declaration for the Lee Road Trail project. Acceptance of this funding results no changes to the project that would require additional environmental analysis, and none of the conditions described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 for the preparation of a subsequent EIR have been met. No substantial changes involving new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects are

proposed, and there has been no change in circumstances. There is no new information about the project that could not have been known at the time of the original project approval that indicates any new significant environmental effects or effects that will be substantially more severe, nor are there new mitigation measures that would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, or mitigation measures previously found to be infeasible that would, in fact, be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project. Therefore, nothing further is required under CEQA. The City hired Harris and Associates to perform the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process under this contract. The CEQA lead Agency is County of Santa Cruz. An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared, and the declaration findings were that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment. The expected environmental impacts are documented in the Initial Study and listed in the Mitigation Monitoring and Report Program. A National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document was prepared to ensure compliance with all Federal environmental regulations, per the Grantor's requirement. Caltrans approved NEPA document on May 8, 2024, and determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117(c); activity (c) (3).

2.      That the City Council hereby accepts the $1.0 Million Dollar grant from the Department of Transportation, Highway Infrastructure Program's "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" grant for the construction and construction engineering of the Lee Road Trail Phase 1, and authorizes the City Manager to take all actions necessary to effectuate receipt of the funding; and

3.      That $1.0 Million Dollars are hereby appropriated to the Special Grants
Fund (0260), Project 14860.


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